

CLAIMS

We claim:

1 1. A computer software product that includes a medium
2 readable by a processor, the medium having stored thereon a set of
3 instructions for creating and implementing an architecture for
4 designing a job training program for an organization, comprising:

5 a) a first sequence of instructions which, when executed
6 by the processor, causes said processor to provide a set of
7 analysis templates prompting a user for information for
8 assessing the organization's needs, capacities, and resources,
9 and for saving the user's responses to said templates in
10 serialized objects;

11 b) a second sequence of instructions which, when executed
12 by the processor, causes said processor to provide a set of
13 design templates based upon a rule-based system analysis of
14 the user's responses to said analysis templates which prompt
15 the user for information tailored to a web-based instructional
16 course for the organization, and causes said processor to
17 receive the user's responses to said templates, and to store
18 the user's responses in serialized objects; and

19 c) a third sequence of instructions which, when executed
20 by the processor, causes said processor to parse the
21 serialized objects, provide the user with an outline tree of
22 a web-based instructional course and with nodes having content
 supplied by the serialized objects, accept user editing of the

24 outline tree and natural language editing of the nodes, and
25 generate a web application implementing a job training course
26 from the edited outline tree and nodes.

1 2. The computer software product according to claim 1,
2 further comprising a fourth sequence of instructions which, when
3 executed by the processor, causes said processor to provide a set
4 of guidelines for carrying out an analysis phase, a design phase,
5 a development phase, an implementation/delivery phase, and an
6 evaluation/maintenance phase for assessing the organization's job
7 training and performance needs, the guidelines being accessible by
8 said first, second and third sets of instructions.

1 3. The computer software product according to claim 1,
2 wherein said first, second, and third sets of instructions are
3 capable of being deployed on a computer network and of being edited
4 by multiple users in both synchronous and asynchronous modes in
5 order to produce a web application for job training and performance
6 by collaborative effort.

1 4. The computer software product according to claim 1,
2 wherein said second set of instructions further includes
3 instructions for:

- 4 (a) developing and sequencing objectives;
5 (b) specifying instructional strategies and methods;
6 (c) evaluating instructional objectives; and
7 (d) examine organizational issues.

1 5. The computer software product according to claim 1,
2 wherein said third set of instructions further includes a set of
3 instructions for permitting a user to supplement textual material
4 with graphics files, audio files, video files and multimedia files.

1 6. The computer software product according to claim 1,
2 wherein said third set of instructions further includes a set of
3 instructions for permitting a user to supplement course material
4 with tests, including user supplied questions and designations of
5 correct answers, points assignments to the questions, standards for
6 acceptable course progress, and feedback for learners.

1 7. The computer software product according to claim 1,
2 wherein said third set of instructions further includes at least
3 one application program interface function for integrating a course
4 produced by said third set of instructions with a learning
5 management system.

1 8. The computer software product according to claim 1,
2 wherein said first set of instructions further includes
3 instructions for:

- 4 (a) needs assessment;
- 5 (b) needs analysis;
- 6 (c) education analysis;
- 7 (d) learning analysis;
- 8 (e) job analysis;
- 9 (f) task analysis;
- 10 (g) learner analysis;
- 11 (h) resource analysis; and
- 12 (i) existing materials analysis.

1 9. The computer software product according to claim 1,
2 wherein said third set of instructions further includes a set of
3 instructions capable of producing a web application job training
4 course permitting multiple learners to access the course
5 synchronously and asynchronously for collaborative job training.

1 10. An automated job training and performance tool for
2 designing a job training program for an organization, comprising:

3 a) a computer having a microprocessor, an area of main
4 memory for executing program code under the direction of the
5 microprocessor, and a disk storage device for storing data and
6 program code;

7 b) data input means for entering data input cognizable by
8 said microprocessor;

9 c) a software program code stored in said disk storage
10 device and executing in main memory under the direction of
11 said microprocessor, the software program including:

12 i) analysis template means for providing a set of
13 analysis templates prompting a user for information for
14 assessing the organization's needs, capacities, and
15 resources, and for saving the user's responses to said
16 templates in serialized objects;

17 ii) design template means for providing a set of
18 design templates based upon a rule-based system analysis
19 of the user's responses to said analysis templates which
20 prompt the user for information tailored to a web-based
21 instructional course for the organization, and causes
22 said processor to receive the user's responses to said
23 templates, and to store the user's responses in
24 serialized objects; and

25 iii) web author means for parsing the serialized
26 objects, providing the user with an outline tree of a

27 web-based instructional course and with nodes having
28 content supplied by the serialized objects, accepting
29 user editing of the outline tree and natural language
30 editing of the nodes, and generating a web application
31 implementing a job training course from the edited
32 outline tree and nodes.

1 11. The automated job training and performance tool according
2 to claim 10, wherein said software program code further comprises
3 means for providing a set of guidelines for carrying out an
4 analysis phase, a design phase, a development phase, an
5 implementation/delivery phase, and an evaluation/maintenance phase
6 for assessing the organization's job training and performance
7 needs, the guidelines being accessible by said analysis template
8 means, said design template means and said web author means.

1 12. The automated job training and performance tool according
2 to claim 10, wherein said analysis template means, said design
3 template means, and said web author means are capable of being
4 deployed on a computer network and of being edited by multiple
5 users in both synchronous and asynchronous modes in order to
6 produce a web application for job training and performance by
7 collaborative effort.

1 13. The automated job training and performance tool according
2 to claim 10, wherein said design template means further includes
3 means for:

- 4 (a) developing and sequencing objectives;
5 (b) specifying instructional strategies and methods;
6 (c) evaluating instructional objectives; and
7 (d) examine organizational issues.

1 14. The automated job training and performance tool according
2 to claim 10, wherein said web author means further includes means
3 for permitting a user to supplement textual material with graphics
4 files, audio files, video files and multimedia files.

1 15. The automated job training and performance tool according
2 to claim 10, wherein said web author means further includes means
3 for permitting a user to supplement course material with tests,
4 including user supplied questions and designations of correct
5 answers, points assignments to the questions, standards for
6 acceptable course progress, and feedback for learners.

1 16. The automated job training and performance tool according
2 to claim 10, wherein said web author means further includes at
3 least one application program interface function for integrating a
4 course produced by said web author means with a learning management
5 system.

1 17. The automated job training and performance tool according
2 to claim 10, wherein said analysis template means further includes
3 means for:

- 4 (a) assessing needs;
- 5 (b) analyzing needs;
- 6 (c) analyzing education;
- 7 (d) analyzing learning;
- 8 (e) analyzing jobs;
- 9 (f) analyzing tasks;
- 10 (g) analyzing learners;
- 11 (h) analyzing resources; and
- 12 (i) analyzing existing materials.

1 18. The automated job training and performance tool according
2 to claim 10, wherein said web author means further includes means
3 capable of producing a web application job training course
4 permitting multiple learners to access the course synchronously and
5 asynchronously for collaborative job training.

1 19. A computer software product that includes a medium
2 readable by a processor, the medium having stored thereon a set of
3 instructions for creating and implementing an architecture for
4 designing a job training program for an organization, comprising:

5 a) a first sequence of instructions which, when executed
6 by the processor, causes said processor to provide a set of
7 analysis templates based upon rules-based systems prompting a
8 user for information for assessing the organization's needs,
9 capacities, and resources, and causes said processor to
10 receive the user's responses to said templates in serialized
11 objects, and compiles, weights, calculates, filters/sorts the
12 user's responses;

13 b) a second sequence of instructions which, when executed
14 by the processor, causes said processor to provide a set of
15 design templates based upon a rule-based systems for the
16 user's responses to said analysis templates and to said design
17 templates which prompt the user for information tailored to
18 delivery systems and instructional strategies for courses for
19 the organization, and causes said processor to receive the
20 user's responses to said templates in serialized objects and
21 compiles, weights, calculates, filters/sorts the user's
22 responses in order to produce a design plan for courses; and

23 c) a third sequence of instructions which, when executed
24 by the processor, causes said processor to parse the
25 serialized objects, provide the user with an outline tree of
a web-based instructional course and with nodes having content

27 supplied by the serialized objects, accept user editing of the
28 outline tree and natural language editing of the nodes, and
29 generate a web application implementing a job training course
30 from the edited outline tree and nodes.